

efforts to expeditiously enact the measures that I am proposing today.

FIBROMYALGIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. GRANGER). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LUCAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the approximately 3.7 million Americans who are plagued by a little-known chronic disorder called fibromyalgia.

Fibromyalgia is a severe form of arthritis characterized by widespread pain and tenderness in the areas of the neck, spine, shoulders, and hips, as well as by fatigue, weakness and sleep.

Unfortunately for these individuals affected by fibromyalgia, the exact cause of the disorder is unknown, and worse yet, there is no known cure; however, this much is known about fibromyalgia, it may be triggered by stress, trauma or possibly an infectious agent in susceptible people.

Thanks to the efforts of organizations such as the National Arthritis Foundation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, and the National Institute of Arthritis and Muscular Skeletal and Skin Diseases, NIAMS, breakthroughs in treatments for relieving the pain of those affected by fibromyalgia are now more commonplace, thank goodness. Medical experts, for example, have determined that a combination of exercise, medication, physical therapy, and relaxation can help relieve the symptoms of fibromyalgia. This is very good news, but there is a lot of work still left to be done.

I respectfully call upon my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to recognize the severity of the issue of fibromyalgia, to support individuals affected by fibromyalgia through public awareness and education, to recognize the leadership of the Arthritis Foundation, CDC, and the States in developing the National Arthritis Action Plan, which includes strategies to address all forms of arthritis, including fibromyalgia, and to recognize the importance of committing resources to the Arthritis Foundation, the CDC, NIAMS, and the relevant Federal research institutions helping to pinpoint the cause of fibromyalgia, and eventually find a cure for fibromyalgia.

Before I finish, I would like to share with my colleagues a story of a constituent of mine, Lin Kisslinger, from Oklahoma City, who was diagnosed with fibromyalgia 9 years ago. Lin is an extremely courageous woman who has gone to great lengths to promote an awareness of fibromyalgia in my home State of Oklahoma and throughout the country. Lin successfully helped establish a statewide fibromyalgia awareness day in Okla-

homa, and she played an integral role in finding the Fibromyalgia Support Group of South Oklahoma City.

With Lin Kisslinger's continued dedication to promote the awareness of fibromyalgia, combined with the efforts of the Oklahoma City and Tulsa chapters of the National Arthritis Foundation, the National Arthritis Foundation itself, the CDC, and NIAMS, I am confident that a cure for fibromyalgia will be discovered sooner, rather than later.

I respectfully urge my colleagues to support my House Resolution on fibromyalgia.

SUSPEND CLINTON-CASTRO MAY 1995 MIGRATION ACCORD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, I rise to call for the immediate suspension by the Clinton administration of the May 1995 Migration Accord with the Cuban dictatorship and to urge the adoption of a serious U.S. policy of assistance to the Cuban internal opposition, and other steps to accelerate the liberation of Cuba and an end to the refugee tragedy, as well as to the threats to U.S. national security posed by the Castro dictatorship, all of which are being covered up and ignored by the Clinton administration.

This administration's policy towards Cuba can no longer hold. The administration cannot continue to sweep the Cuban crisis under the carpet. The Cuban crisis and the tragedy of the oppression of the Cuban people must no longer be treated as an immigration issue. We must address the issue comprehensively as one of vital U.S. national security, including the need to stop Cuban narco-trafficking, a congressional hearing on which will take place very soon.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and their staffs for their critical work on this very serious matter.

We also have to realize that this problem, the problem of the Cuban dictatorship, is one of biological weapons development, of promotion of international terrorism, of destabilization of the Western Hemisphere, of alliances with rogue states in furtherance of anti-American interests, and of the promotion of international criminal activity.

The way to solve the immigration problem is to solve the national security problem and the tragedy of the oppression of the Cuban people. Before Castro's takeover of Cuba in 1959, never, even during the worst poverty of the economic depression of the 1930s, not only were there no rafters, there was not even 1 year when the U.S.

quota allotment of immigrant visas for Cuba was filled. The Cuban people are not an emigrant people. They are desperately seeking freedom today due to the totalitarian oppression and economic destruction caused by the Castro dictatorship.

Yesterday, off the coast of Miami Beach, we saw an unfortunate demonstration of the profoundly unacceptable nature of the Clinton policy of focusing on the Cuban tragedy as an immigration issue. The policy is deeply flawed.

The United States should immediately, one, first suspend the immoral and illegal Clinton-Castro Migration Accord of May 1995, which violates the generous tradition of the American people with regard to refugees from Soviet Bloc countries and also violates the Cuban Adjustment Act of 1966.

Secondly, inform Castro with all clarity that any attempt to fabricate a new crisis for the United States, such as by attempting to send massive amounts of refugees, shall be responded to with immediate U.S. action which would include a naval blockade of Cuba, not only of refugees which would be returned to the Cuban shore, but also of all oil shipments to the island.

And, thirdly, initiate a serious and vigorous program of assistance to the Cuban internal opposition and other steps to hasten the demise of the Cuban dictatorship and the reestablishment of democracy and the rule of law in Cuba.

The time has come, Madam Speaker, to end the suffering and oppression of Cuba, not to fire water cannons and pepper spray on defenseless Cuban refugees trying to swim to freedom.

HEALTH OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GEKAS. Madam Speaker, we ought to begin this presentation with proposing a toast, and perhaps we can raise our glasses to propose a toast to the health of the American people, because that is what this special order is all about, the health of the American people.

For a long time now, many of us in the House have been about the business of trying to double, over a period of 5 years, the funding for the National Institutes of Health. In doing so, we are focusing directly on the reason for the toast that we made to start the proceedings, namely preventive medicine for the health of the American people, remedies for some of the maladies that afflict the American people, and long-term strategies to bring about a world safer for our people, and to rid the